

Substitute Bill No. 1051

January Session, 2015



AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE STATE'S ELECTIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Section 9-4b of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- The Secretary of the State shall establish an elections training unit to
- 4 coordinate all training for registrars of voters, deputy registrars of
- 5 voters [, permanent assistant registrars of voters as described in section
- 6 9-192] and poll workers. Such unit shall employ at least one person
- 7 having field experience in the conduct of elections.
- 8 Sec. 2. Section 9-192a of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 9 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 10 (a) (1) The Secretary of the State shall, in consultation with the
- 11 advisory committee created pursuant to subsection (b) of this section,
- 12 establish a program and criteria for the certification of registrars of
- 13 voters and deputy registrars of voters. All registrars and deputy
- registrars holding office on July 1, 2015, shall complete such program
- and satisfy such criteria for certification after July 1, 2017. Any registrar
- or deputy registrar elected or appointed, as the case may be, after July
- 17 1, 2015, shall complete such program and satisfy such criteria for
- 18 certification (A) in the case of a two-year term, not later than the

- conclusion of such term, and (B) in the case of a four-year term, not later than two years after the date of first holding such office.
- 21 (2) Once certified, pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, all 22 registrars and deputy registrars shall participate each year in not less 23 than eight hours of training, not including any training described 24 under subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of this section, in order to 25 maintain such certification. Such training shall be as prescribed by the 26 Secretary of the State and shall be conducted by said Secretary or a 27 third party approved by said Secretary to conduct such training. Any 28 registrar or deputy registrar who fails to satisfy such annual training requirement shall be directed by the Secretary of the State to take 29 30 remedial measures prescribed by said Secretary.
 - [(a)] (b) There is created [a] an advisory committee for the purpose of establishing programs and procedures for training, examining and certifying registrars of voters, deputy registrars of voters and [permanent assistants] assistant registrars of voters, as described in section 9-192. The committee shall consist of six members, one of whom shall be from the office of the Secretary of the State, one of whom shall be from the State Elections Enforcement Commission, and four of whom shall be registrars of voters. The Secretary of the State shall appoint the registrars of voters, in consultation with the Registrars of Voters Association of Connecticut, or its successor organization. The committee members shall serve without pay. The Secretary of the State shall determine the length of the terms of the initial members, in accordance with the following: Two of such members shall serve for a one-year term; two of such members shall serve for a two-year term; and two of such members shall serve for a four-year term. Thereafter, all members shall serve for four-year terms. The committee shall select a chairperson, who shall be one of the registrars who is a member of the committee.
 - [(b)] (c) The [committee] Secretary of the State, in consultation with the advisory committee, shall adopt criteria for the training, examination and certification requirements of registrars, deputies and

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

permanent assistants. In the adoption of such criteria, the committee (1) shall consider whether the prescribed training leading to certification may, in part, be satisfied through participation in the required two conferences a year called by the Secretary of the State, pursuant to section 9-6, for purposes of discussing the election laws, procedures or matters related to election laws and procedures, and (2) may recommend programs at one or more institutions of higher education that satisfy such criteria. Any registrar of voters, deputy or permanent assistant may participate in the course of training prescribed by the committee and, upon completing such training and successfully completing any examination or examinations prescribed by the committee, shall be recommended by the committee to the Secretary of the State as a candidate for certification as a certified Connecticut registrar of voters. The Secretary of the State shall certify any such qualified, recommended candidate as a certified Connecticut registrar of voters. The Secretary of the State may rescind any such certificate only upon a finding, by a majority of the committee, of sufficient cause as defined by the criteria adopted pursuant to this subsection. [No provision of this subsection shall require any registrar of voters, deputy or permanent assistant to be a certified registrar of voters.]

[(c)] (d) The advisory committee shall also (1) develop a training program in election procedures for poll workers, and (2) develop an election law and procedures training program and guide for registrars, deputy registrars and assistant registrars. The training program developed under subdivision (2) of this [section] subsection shall provide for training to be conducted by trained registrars or former registrars hired for such purpose by the Secretary of the State. The committee shall submit such training programs and training guide to the Secretary of the State, who shall approve or modify the programs and guide.

Sec. 3. Section 9-3 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

61 62

63

64

65

66

67

68 69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

81

82

83

The Secretary of the State, by virtue of the office, shall be the Commissioner of Elections of the state, with such powers and duties relating to the conduct of elections as are prescribed by law and, unless otherwise provided by state statute, the secretary's regulations, declaratory rulings, instructions and opinions, if in written form, shall be presumed as correctly interpreting and effectuating the administration of elections and primaries under this title, except for [chapter 155] chapters 155 to 158, inclusive, and shall be executed, carried out or implemented, as the case may be, provided nothing in this section shall be construed to alter the right of appeal provided under the provisions of chapter 54. Any such written instruction or opinion shall be labeled as an instruction or opinion issued pursuant to this section, as applicable, and any such instruction or opinion.

Sec. 4. (NEW) (Effective from passage) Whenever complaint in writing is made to the state's attorney for any judicial district that the registrar of voters of any town in such judicial district is guilty of misconduct, wilful and material neglect of duty or incompetence in the conduct of such registrar's office, such state's attorney shall make such investigation of the charges as such state's attorney deems proper and shall, if such state's attorney is of the opinion that the evidence obtained warrants such action, prepare a statement in writing of the charges against such registrar of voters, together with a citation in the name of the state, commanding such registrar of voters to appear before a judge of the Superior Court at a date named in the citation and show cause, if any, why such registrar of voters should not be removed from office as provided in this section. Such state's attorney shall cause a copy of such statement and citation to be served by some proper officer upon the defendant registrar of voters at least ten days before the date of appearance named in such citation, and the original statement and citation, with the return of the officer thereon, shall be returned to the clerk of the superior court for the judicial district within which such town is situated. To carry into effect the proceedings authorized by this section, the state's attorney of any

85

86

87

88 89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

97

98

99

100

101

102

103

104

105

106

107

108

109

110

111

112

113

114

115

116

117

judicial district shall have power to summon witnesses, require the production of necessary books, papers and other documents and administer oaths to witnesses; and upon the date named in such citation for the appearance of such registrar of voters, or upon any adjourned date fixed by the judge before whom such proceedings are pending, the state's attorney shall appear and conduct the hearing on behalf of the state. If, after a full hearing of all the evidence offered by the state's attorney and by and on behalf of the defendant, such judge is of the opinion that the evidence presented warrants the removal of such registrar of voters from office, the judge shall cause to be prepared a written order to that effect, which order shall be signed by the judge and lodged with the clerk of the superior court for the judicial district in which such defendant resides. Such clerk of the superior court shall cause a certified copy of such order to be served forthwith upon such registrar of voters, and upon such service the office held by such registrar of voters shall become vacant and the vacancy thereby created shall be filled at once in the manner provided in section 9-220 of the general statutes. Any witnesses summoned and any officer making service under the provisions of this section shall be allowed and paid by the state the same fees as are allowed by law in criminal prosecutions.

Sec. 5. (NEW) (Effective from passage) If a registrar of voters fails to attain or maintain, whichever is applicable, certification required under subsection (a) of section 9-192a of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or is the subject of an investigation of any matter related to the duties of such registrar's office resulting from a complaint instituted by the Secretary of the State, said Secretary may temporarily relieve such registrar of voters of his or her duties and require the deputy registrar of voters to administer the operations of such office until any such matter is resolved. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a municipality from paying the salary of such registrar of voters while resolution of any such matter is pending.

Sec. 6. Subsection (g) of section 9-7a of the general statutes is

119

120

121

122

123

124

125

126

127

128

129

130

131

132

133

134

135

136

137

138

139

140

141

142

143

144

145

146

147

148

149

150

- repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 154 (g) [In] (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, 155 in the case of a written complaint filed with the commission pursuant 156 to section 9-7b on or after January 1, 1988, if the commission does not, 157 by the sixtieth day following receipt of the complaint, either issue a 158 decision or render its determination that probable cause or no probable 159 cause exists for one or more violations of state election laws, the 160 complainant or respondent may apply to the superior court for the 161 judicial district of Hartford for an order to show cause why the 162 commission has not acted upon the complaint and to provide evidence 163 that the commission has unreasonably delayed action. [Such 164 proceeding
 - (2) In the case of a statement filed by the Secretary of the State with the commission pursuant to section 9-7b on or after July 1, 2015, if the commission does not, by the thirtieth day following such filing, make a determination to investigate such statement and, by the ninetieth day following such filing, complete any investigation of such statement, the Secretary may apply to the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford for an order to show cause why the commission has not acted upon the statement and to provide evidence that the commission has unreasonably delayed action.
 - (3) Any judicial proceeding pursuant to subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection shall be privileged with respect to assignment for trial. The commission shall appear and give appropriate explanation in the matter. The court may, in its discretion, order the commission to: [(1)] (A) Continue to proceed pursuant to section 9-7b, [(2)] (B) act by a date certain, or [(3)] (C) refer the complaint or statement to the Chief State's Attorney. Nothing in this subsection shall require the commission, in any proceeding brought pursuant to this subsection, to disclose records or documents which are not required to be disclosed pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1-210. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude the commission from continuing its investigation or taking

165

166167

168

169

170171

172

173

174

175

176

177

178

179180

181

182

183

- any action permitted by section 9-7b, unless otherwise ordered by the court. The commission or any other party may, within seven days after a decision by the court under this subsection, file an appeal of the decision with the Appellate Court.
- Sec. 7. Section 9-17a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- As used in sections 9-17, 9-19b, <u>as amended by this act,</u> [9-19c(a)] <u>9-19c</u>, 9-20, 9-23a, 9-24, 9-31a, 9-31b and 9-31*l*, unless otherwise provided, the term "admitting official" means a town clerk, assistant town clerk, registrar of voters, deputy registrar of voters [,] <u>or</u> assistant registrar of voters [, special assistant registrar of voters] or the board for admission of electors.
- 197 Sec. 8. Subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of section 9-19b of the 198 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu 199 thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (b) Except during the period between the last session for the admission of electors prior to an election and the day following that election, either registrar of voters, or a deputy registrar [, assistant registrar or special assistant registrar or assistant registrar appointed in accordance with the provisions of section 9-192 may examine the qualifications of any person applying to be admitted as an elector in the town and, except for applications submitted pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection, approve such application submitted in person (1) at the office of such official; (2) at any enrollment session of the registrars of voters; (3) at any public place; (4) at any time and at any place in the town, other than a public place; or (5) at any public office of the Department of Motor Vehicles, Labor Department or Department of Social Services which is located in the town in which the registrar, deputy registrar [, assistant registrar or special assistant registrar or assistant registrar serves, if written notice of the date and time is given seven days in advance thereof to the commissioner of such department. Upon receipt of a written notice under subdivision

200201

202

203

204

205206

207

208

209

210

211

212

213

214

(5) of this subsection, the commissioner of the department may designate a portion of the public office which shall be used for the admission of electors. The other registrar, or any deputy [, assistant or special assistant registrar or assistant registrar, shall be permitted to be present during the admission of any person pursuant to subdivisions (4) and (5) of this subsection. Applications accepted and examined prior to the last session for admission of electors prior to an election pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection may be approved after such last session. The admission of any person pursuant to subdivision (4) shall be effective on the date when both registrars approve such application. The registrar who receives such application from the applicant shall give written notice to the other registrar within one business day after such receipt and the registrars shall forthwith act on such applications. No rejection of any application under subdivision (4) of this subsection shall be effective until the registrar has mailed to the other registrar and the applicant a notice stating [the reasons] any reason for the rejection. Any applicant whose application is rejected may appeal under the provisions of section 9-31l.

(c) Such registrar, deputy [, assistant or special assistant registrar] or assistant registrar accepting applications in accordance with subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of this section shall provide the applicant with a receipt. Upon approval or disapproval of the application, the registrars shall send a notice thereof by first-class mail with instructions on the envelope that it be returned if not deliverable at the address shown thereon. If such notice of approval is returned undeliverable, the registrars shall take the necessary action in accordance with section 9-35 or 9-43.

(d) During the period between the last session for the admission of electors prior to an election and the opening of the limited session for the admission of electors held on the last weekday before such election under section 9-17, the town clerk or assistant town clerk during office hours and at the office of such official and either registrar of voters or a

217

218

219

220

221

222

223

224

225

226

227

228

229

230

231

232

233

234

235

236

237

238

239

240

241

242

243

244

245

246

247

248

- 250 deputy or assistant registrar at the office of such official may examine 251 the qualifications of any person applying in person to be admitted in 252 such town and approve the application of such person whose 253 qualifications as to age, citizenship or residence in the municipality 254 were attained after such last session and on or before the last weekday 255
- 256 Sec. 9. Section 9-19k of the general statutes is amended by adding 257 subsection (g) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

prior to such election.

258

259

260

261

262

266

267

268 269

270

271

272

273

274

275

276

277

278

279

- (NEW) (g) Nothing in this section shall prevent the registrars of voters or any election official appointed by such registrars of voters to admit any applicant as an elector from utilizing the online voter registration system established pursuant to this section for the purpose of admitting such applicant on election day pursuant to section 9-19j.
- 263 Sec. 10. Subsections (a) to (f), inclusive, of section 9-23g of the 264 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu 265 thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (a) In addition to the procedures for admission of electors under sections 9-19b, as amended by this act, 9-19c, 9-19e, 9-20 and 9-31, any person may apply to a registrar of voters of the town of his residence for admission as an elector in accordance with the provisions of this section and section 9-23h.
 - (b) The Secretary of the State shall prescribe, and provide to registrars of voters, town clerks and voter registration agencies, as defined in section 9-23n, application forms and other materials necessary to complete such application and admission process. The Secretary of the State, registrars of voters and town clerks shall provide a reasonable number of such forms and materials to any elector who requests such forms and materials. The secretary shall also, in the course of the secretary's elections duties, prepare instructions and related materials describing procedures for such application and admission process and shall provide the materials to registrars of

voters and town clerks. The application shall contain the information required under section 9-23h. All statements of the applicant shall be made under the penalties of perjury. The application for admission as an elector shall include a statement that (1) specifies each eligibility requirement, (2) contains an attestation that the application meets each such requirement, and (3) requires the signature of the applicant under penalty of perjury. Nothing in this section or section 9-23h shall require that the application be executed in the state. An applicant who is unable to write may cause the applicant's name to be signed on the application form by an authorized agent who shall, in the space provided for the signature, write the name of the applicant followed by the word "by" and the agent's own signature. The completed application may be mailed or returned in person to the office of the registrars of voters or the office of the town clerk of the applicant's town of residence or a voter registration agency. If the applicant entrusts the applicant's application to another person or to such a voter registration agency for mailing or return to the registrars of voters, such person or agency shall immediately mail or return the application. Any such voter registration agency shall also provide the applicant with an application receipt, on which the agency shall record (A) the date that the agency received the application, using an official date stamp bearing the name of the agency, and (B) the party affiliation, if any, of the applicant. The agency shall provide such receipt whether the application was submitted in person or by mail. The town clerk shall promptly forward any application which the town clerk receives to the registrars of voters. Such application form shall be provided by or authorized by the Secretary of the State.

(c) Forthwith upon receipt of a registration application in the office of the registrars of voters, the registrar shall mark such date on the application and review the application to determine whether the applicant has properly completed it and is legally qualified to register. Forthwith upon completing his review, the registrar shall (1) indicate on the application whether the application has been accepted or rejected, (2) mail a notice to the applicant, (3) indicate on the

281

282

283

284

285

286

287

288

289

290

291

292

293

294

295

296

297

298

299

300

301

302

303

304

305

306

307

308

309

310

311

312

313

application the date on which such notice is mailed, and (4) provide a copy of such notice to the other registrar. If the registrar determines that the applicant has not properly completed the application or is not legally qualified to register, the notice shall indicate that the application has been rejected and shall state [the] any reason for rejection. If the registrar determines that the applicant has properly completed the application and is legally qualified to register, the notice shall indicate that the application has been accepted. A notice of acceptance or a notice of rejection shall be sent (A) [within four days of] not later than four days after receipt of an application during the period beginning on the forty-ninth day before an election and ending on the twenty-first day before such election, (B) on the day of receipt of an application if it is received (i) during the period beginning on the twentieth day before such election and ending on the [fourteenth] seventh day before such election, (ii) during the period beginning on the [thirteenth] sixth day before an election and ending on election day if the application has been received by the [fourteenth] seventh day before an election by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or by a voter registration agency, (iii) during the period beginning on the twentyfirst day before a primary and ending on the fifth day before a primary, or (iv) during the period beginning on the fourth day before a primary and ending at twelve o'clock noon on the last weekday before a primary, if the application has been postmarked by the fifth day before the primary and is received in the office of the registrars of voters during such period or if the application is received by the fifth day before a primary by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or by a voter registration agency, and (C) within ten days of receipt of an application at any other time. A notice of acceptance shall be sent by first-class mail with instructions on the envelope that it be returned if not deliverable at the address shown on the envelope. A notice of acceptance shall indicate the effective date of the applicant's registration and enrollment, the date of the next regularly scheduled election or primary in which the applicant shall be eligible to vote and the applicant's precinct and polling place. If a notice of acceptance of an application is returned undelivered, the registrars shall forthwith

315

316

317

318 319

320

321

322

323

324

325

326

327

328 329

330

331

332

333

334

335

336

337

338

339

340

341

342

343

344

345

346

347

348

- take the necessary action in accordance with section 9-35 or 9-43, notwithstanding the May first deadline in section 9-35. An applicant for admission as an elector pursuant to this section and section 9-23h may only be admitted as an elector by a registrar of voters of the town of his residence. Not later than December thirty-first, annually, the Secretary of the State shall establish an official calendar of all deadlines set forth in this subsection for regularly scheduled elections and primaries to be held in the following calendar year.
 - (d) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the privileges of an elector for any applicant for admission under this section and section 9-23h shall attach immediately upon approval by the registrar, and the registrars shall enter the name of the elector on the registry list.
 - (2) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, if a mailed application is postmarked, or if a delivered application is received in the office of the registrars of voters, after the [fourteenth] seventh day before an election or after the fifth day before a primary, the privileges of an elector shall not attach until the day after such election or primary, as the case may be. In such event, the registrars of voters may contact such applicant, either by telephone or mail, in order to inform such applicant of the effect of such late received mailin application and any applicable deadline for applying for admission in person.
 - (3) If an application is received after the [fourteenth] <u>seventh</u> day before an election or after the fifth day before a primary by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or by a voter registration agency, the privileges of an elector shall not attach until the day after the election or primary, as the case may be, or on the day the registrar approves it, whichever is later.
 - (4) If on the day of an election or primary, the name of an applicant does not appear on the official check list, such applicant may present to the moderator at the polls either a notice of acceptance received

through the mail or an application receipt that was previously provided to the applicant pursuant to section 9-19e, subsection (b) of section 9-19h, subsection (b) of this section or section 9-23n. If an applicant presents said notice or receipt, and either the registrars of voters find the original application or the applicant submits a new application at the polls, the registrar, or assistant registrar upon notice to and approval by the registrar, shall add such person's name and address to the official check list on such day and the person shall be allowed to vote if otherwise eligible to vote and the person presents to the checkers at the polling place a preprinted form of identification pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 9-261.

- (e) A registration application filed under this section shall be rejected if the application (1) has not been signed or dated by the applicant or the authorized agent of the applicant pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, (2) does not indicate the applicant's date of birth or bona fide residence, (3) does not indicate United States citizenship, provided the registrars of voters have contacted such applicant to provide an opportunity to answer such question, or (4) is determined by the Secretary of the State to be substantially defective. No registration application filed under this section shall be rejected if the application fails to provide the applicant's Social Security number or the zip code of the applicant's bona fide residence.
- (f) Upon admission of an applicant under subsection (d) of this section, who indicated on his registration application that he changed residence since voting last in Connecticut, the registrar of voters of the town of such applicant's current residence shall notify the registrar of any other town who accepted the voter's last registration [, and the registrar in the voter's place of last residence, if different] and the registrar of the town of the voter's last residence, if different. Notification shall be made upon a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State. A registrar receiving such a notification shall delete the elector's name from the registry list.

Sec. 11. Section 9-391 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2016*):

(a) Each endorsement of a candidate to run in a primary for the nomination of candidates for municipal office to be voted upon at a municipal election, or for the election of town committee members shall be made under the provisions of section 9-390 not earlier than the fifty-sixth day or later than the forty-ninth day preceding the day of such primary. In the case of an endorsement of a candidate for a municipal office of state senator or state representative, such endorsement may be made of a candidate whose name appears upon the last-completed enrollment list of such party within the municipality or political subdivision within which such candidate is to run for nomination. The endorsement shall be certified to the clerk of the municipality by either (1) the chairman or presiding officer, or (2) the secretary of the town committee, caucus or convention, as the case may be, not later than four o'clock p.m. on the forty-eighth day preceding the day of such primary. Such certification shall be signed by such candidate and contain the name and street address of each person so endorsed, the title of the office or the position as committee member and the name or number of the political subdivision or district, if any, for which each such person is endorsed. Such certification shall be made on a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State or on such other form as may comply with the provisions of this subsection. If such a certificate of a party's endorsement is not received by the town clerk by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party, for purposes of sections 9-417, 9-418 and 9-419, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified such endorsement of any candidate for such office.

(b) Each selection of delegates to a state or district convention shall be made in accordance with the provisions of section 9-390 not earlier than the one-hundred-fortieth day and not later than the one-hundred-thirty-third day preceding the day of the primary for such state or district office. Such selection shall be certified to the clerk of the

415

416

417

418

419

420

421

422

423

424

425

426

427

428

429

430

431

432

433

434

435

436

437

438

439

440

441

442

443

444

445

446

municipality by the chairman or presiding officer and the secretary of the town committee or caucus, as the case may be, not later than four o'clock p.m. on the one-hundred-thirty-second day preceding the day of such primary. Each such certification shall contain the name and street address of each person so selected, the position as delegate, and the name or number of the political subdivision or district, if any, for which each such person is selected. If such a certificate of a party's selection is not received by the town clerk by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party, for purposes of sections 9-417 and 9-420, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified any selection of any person for the position of delegate.

(c) Each endorsement of a candidate to run in a primary for the nomination of candidates for a municipal office to be voted upon at a state election shall be made under the provisions of section 9-390 not earlier than the eighty-fourth day or later than the seventy-seventh day preceding the day of such primary. Any certification to be filed under this subsection shall be received by the Secretary of the State [, in the case of a candidate for the office of state senator or state representative, or the town clerk, in the case of a candidate for any other municipal office to be voted upon at a state election, not later than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth day after the close of the town committee meeting, caucus or convention, as the case may be. If such a certificate of a party's endorsement is not received by the Secretary of the State [or the town clerk, as the case may be,] by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of sections 9-417 and 9-418, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified any endorsement of any candidate for such office. The candidate so endorsed for a municipal office to be voted upon at a state election, other than the office of justice of the peace, shall file with the Secretary of the State [or the town clerk, as the case may be,] a certificate, signed by that candidate, stating that such candidate was so endorsed, the candidate's name as the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full street address and the title and district of the office for which the candidate was endorsed. Such certificate may be filed by

448

449

450

451 452

453

454

455

456

457

458

459

460

461

462

463

464

465

466

467

468

469

470

471

472

473

474

475 476

477

478

479

480

a candidate whose name appears upon the last-completed enrollment list of such party within the senatorial district within which the candidate is endorsed to run for nomination in the case of the municipal office of state senator, or the assembly district within which a person is endorsed to run for nomination in the case of the municipal office of state representative, or the municipality or political subdivision within which a person is to run for nomination for other municipal offices to be voted on at a state election. Such certificate shall be attested by the [chairman] chairperson or presiding officer [and] or the secretary of the town committee, caucus or convention which made such endorsement. The endorsement of [candidates] any candidate for the office of justice of the peace shall be certified to the clerk of the municipality by the [chairman] chairperson or presiding officer [and] or the secretary of the town committee, caucus or convention, and shall contain the name and street address of each person so endorsed and the title of the office for which each such person is endorsed. Such certification shall be made on a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State or on such other form as may comply with the provisions of this subsection.

Sec. 12. Section 9-395 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2016*):

(a) Forthwith upon the certification provided in section 9-391, <u>as</u> <u>amended by this act</u>, the clerk of the municipality shall publish, in a newspaper having a general circulation in such municipality, the fact of such certification and that a list of the persons endorsed as candidates is on file in his office and copies thereof are available for public distribution. If, with respect to any office or position to be filled, the clerk of the municipality has failed to receive the certification of the name of any person as a party-endorsed candidate within the time limited in section 9-391, <u>as amended by this act</u>, such fact shall be published by the clerk of the municipality. Together with such information, the clerk shall publish a notice that a primary will be held for the nomination by such political party of a candidate for the offices

482

483

484

485

486

487

488 489

490

491

492

493

494

495

496

497

498

499

500

501

502

503

504

505

506

507

508

509

510

511

512

513

to be filled or for the election of members of the town committee, as the case may be, if a candidacy is filed in accordance with the provisions of sections 9-382 to 9-450, inclusive. Such notice shall specify the final date for the filing of such candidacy and the date of the primary, shall state where forms for petitions may be obtained and shall generally indicate the method of procedure in the filing of such candidacy. The Secretary of the State shall prescribe the form of such notice. The clerk shall forthwith publish any change in the party-endorsed candidates, listing such changes.

(b) In any year in which a state election is to be held, the notice described in subsection (a) of this section shall: (1) Be published not later than the seventy-sixth day preceding the day of the primary, (2) indicate that the certification provided in section 9-391, as amended by this act, can be made, and (3) indicate that a list of persons endorsed as candidates will be on file [in the clerk's office, as provided in subsection (a) of this section] with the Secretary of the State. The requirement contained in subsection (a) of this section to publish the fact that the clerk of the municipality has failed to receive the certification of the name of any person as a party-endorsed candidate within the time limit in section 9-391, as amended by this act, shall not apply to the notice required by this subsection.

Sec. 13. Section 9-453b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2016*):

The Secretary of the State shall not issue any nominating petition forms for a candidate for an office to be filled at a regular election to be held in any year prior to the first business day of such year. The Secretary shall not issue any nominating petition forms unless the person requesting the nominating petition forms makes a written application for such forms, which application shall contain the following: (1) The name or names of the candidates to appear on such nominating petition, compared by the town clerk of the town of residence of each candidate with the candidate's name as it appears on the last-completed registry list of such town, and verified and

corrected by such town clerk or in the case of a newly admitted elector whose name does not appear on the last-completed registry list, the town clerk shall compare the candidate's name as it appears on the candidate's application for admission and verify and correct it accordingly; (2) a signed statement by each such candidate that the candidate consents to the placing of the candidate's name on such petition; and (3) the party designation, if any. An applicant for petition forms who does not wish to specify a party designation shall so indicate on the application for such forms and the application, if so marked, shall not be amended in this respect. No application made after November 3, 1981, shall contain any party designation unless a reservation of such party designation with the Secretary is in effect for all of the offices included in the application or unless the party designation is the same as the name of a minor party which is qualified for a different office or offices on the same ballot as the office or offices included in the application. The Secretary shall not issue such forms (A) unless the application for forms on behalf of a candidate for the office of presidential elector is accompanied by the names of the candidates for President and Vice-President whom the candidate for the office of presidential elector represents and includes the consent of such candidates for President and Vice-President; (B) unless the application for forms on behalf of Governor or Lieutenant Governor is accompanied by the name of the candidate for the other office and includes the consent of both such candidates; (C) if petition forms have previously been issued on behalf of the same candidate for the same office unless the candidate files a written statement of withdrawal of the candidate's previous candidacy with the Secretary; and (D) unless the application meets the requirements of this section. A candidacy for nomination by nominating petition to a district or municipal office may be filed on behalf of any person whose name appears on the lastcompleted registry list of the district or municipality represented by such office, as the case may be. A candidacy for nomination by nominating petition to a state office may be filed on behalf of any person whose name appears on the last-completed registry list of the state.

548

549

550

551

552

553

554555

556

557

558

559

560

561 562

563

564

565

566

567

568

569

570

571

572

573

574

575

576

577

578

579

580

581

Sec. 14. Section 9-373a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2016*):

Any person desiring to be a write-in candidate for any state, district or municipal office to be filled at any regular election shall register his candidacy with the Secretary of the State on a form prescribed by the secretary. The registration shall include the candidate's name and address, the designation and term of the office sought, a statement of consent to the candidacy, and any other information which the secretary deems necessary. In the case of a write-in candidacy for the office of Governor or Lieutenant Governor, the registration shall include a candidate for each of those offices, or shall be void. The registration shall not include a designation of any political party. The registration shall be filed with the secretary not more than ninety days prior to the election at which the office is to be filled and not later than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth day preceding the election, or the registration shall be void. No person nominated for an office by a major or minor party or by nominating petition shall register as a write-in candidate for that office under the provisions of this section, and any registration of a write-in candidacy filed by such a person shall be void. Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, any person desiring to be a write-in candidate for the municipal office of town meeting member in any town having a representative town meeting which has seventy-five or more members shall register his candidacy with the town clerk of such town not later than the last business day preceding such election. A person may register as a write-in candidate for a district or municipal office if such person's name appears on the last-completed registry list of the district or municipality represented by such office, as the case may be. A person may register as a write-in candidate for a state office if such person's name appears on the last-completed registry list of the state.

Sec. 15. Section 9-452 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2016*):

All minor parties nominating candidates for any elective office shall

583

584

585

586

587

588

589

590

591

592

593

594

595

596

597

598

599

600 601

602

603

604

605

606

607

608

609

610

611 612

613

614

make such nominations and certify and file a list of such nominations, as required by this section, not later than the sixty-second day prior to the day of the election at which such candidates are to be voted for. A list of nominees in printed or typewritten form that includes each candidate's name as authorized by each candidate to appear on the ballot, the signature of each candidate, the full street address of each candidate and the title and district of the office for which each candidate is nominated shall be certified by the presiding officer of the committee, meeting or other authority making such nomination and shall be filed by such presiding officer with the Secretary of the State, in the case of [state or district office or the municipal office of state representative, state senator or judge of probatel any state, district or municipal office to be voted upon at a state election, or with the clerk of the municipality, in the case of any municipal office to be voted upon at a municipal election, not later than the sixty-second day prior to the day of the election. The registrars of voters of such municipality shall promptly verify and correct the names on any such list filed with him, or the names of nominees forwarded to the clerk of the municipality by the Secretary of the State, in accordance with the registry list of such municipality and endorse the same as having been so verified and corrected. For purposes of this section, a list of nominations shall be deemed to be filed when it is received by the Secretary of the State or clerk of the municipality, as appropriate. If such certificate of a party's nomination is not received by the Secretary of the State or clerk of the municipality, as appropriate, by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party, for purposes of sections 9-460, 9-461 and 9-462, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified any nomination of any candidate for such office. A candidacy for nomination by a minor party to a district or municipal office may be filed on behalf of any person whose name appears on the lastcompleted registry list of the district or municipality represented by such office, as the case may be. A candidacy for nomination by a minor party to a state office may be filed on behalf of any person whose name appears on the last-completed registry list of the state.

616

617

618

619

620

621

622

623

624

625

626

627

628

629

630

631

632

633

634

635

636

637

638 639

640

641

642643

644

645

646

647 648

Sec. 16. Section 9-412 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Upon the receipt of any page of a petition proposing a candidacy for a municipal office or for member of a town committee, the registrar shall forthwith sign and give to the person submitting the petition a receipt in duplicate, stating the number of pages filed and the date and time of filing and shall forthwith certify on each such page the number of signers on the page who were enrolled on the last-completed enrollment list of such party in the municipality or political subdivision, as the case may be, and shall forthwith file such certified page in person or by mail, as described in section 9-140b, with the clerk of the municipality, together with the registrar's certificate as to the whole number of names on the last-completed enrollment list of such party in such municipality or political subdivision, as the case may be, [within] not later than seven days after receipt of the page. If such page involves a municipal office to be voted upon at a state election, such registrar shall also file a certificate, on a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State, that includes the name and full street address of each candidate and the title and district of such office not later than seven days after receipt of such page. In checking signatures on primary petition pages, the registrar shall reject any name if such name does not appear on the last-completed enrollment list in the municipality or political subdivision, as the case may be. Such rejection shall be indicated by placing a mark in a manner prescribed by the Secretary before the name so rejected. The registrar may place a check mark before each name appearing on the enrollment list to indicate approval but shall place no other mark on the page except as provided in this chapter. The registrar shall not reject any name for which the street address on the petition is different from the street address on the enrollment list, if (1) such person is eligible to vote for the candidate or candidates named in the petition, and (2) the person's date of birth, as shown on the petition page, is the same as the date of birth on the person's registration record. The registrar shall reject any page of a petition which does not contain the certifications provided in section 9-

650

651

652

653 654

655

656

657

658

659

660 661

662

663 664

665

666

667

668

669 670

671

672

673

674

675

676

677

678

679

680

681

682

- 410, or which the registrar determines to have been circulated in violation of any other provision of section 9-410. Petitions filed with the municipal clerk shall be preserved for a period of three years and then may be destroyed.
- Sec. 17. Section 9-235d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (a) Notwithstanding any provision of sections 9-233, 9-235 and 9-258 690 691 to the contrary, a United States citizen who is sixteen or seventeen 692 years of age and a bona fide resident of a town may be (1) appointed as 693 a challenger or unofficial checker in an election, or (2) appointed as a 694 checker, translator, ballot clerk or voting tabulator tender in an election 695 after (A) attending poll worker training, and (B) receiving the written 696 permission of a parent, guardian or the principal of the school that the 697 citizen attends if the citizen is a secondary school student and the 698 citizen is to be appointed to work on a day when such school is in 699 session.
 - (b) Notwithstanding any provision of section 9-436 or 9-436a to the contrary, a United States citizen who is sixteen or seventeen years of age and a bona fide resident of a town or political subdivision holding a primary may be (1) appointed as a challenger or candidate checker in the primary, or (2) appointed as a checker, translator, ballot clerk or voting tabulator tender in a primary after (A) attending poll worker training, and (B) receiving the written permission of a parent, guardian or the principal of the school that the citizen attends if the citizen is a secondary school student and the citizen is to be appointed to work on a day when such school is in session.
- Sec. 18. Section 9-236b of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (f) as follows (*Effective from passage*):
- 712 (NEW) (f) The provisions of section 9-261, describing requirements 713 for identification, shall be posted where the official checkers are 714 located in each polling location. Such posting shall be in a manner

700

701

702

703

704

705

706

707

708

715 prescribed by the Secretary of the State.

718

719

720

721

722

723

724

725

726

727

728

729

730

731

732

733

734

735

736

737

738

739

740

741

742

743

744

745

746

747

Sec. 19. Section 9-250 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Ballots shall be printed in plain clear type and on material of such size as will fit the tabulator, and shall be furnished by the registrar of voters. The size and style of the type used to print the name of a political party on a ballot shall be identical with the size and style of the type used to print the names of all other political parties appearing on such ballot. The name of each major party candidate for a municipal office, as defined in section 9-372, except for the municipal offices of state senator and state representative, shall appear on the ballot [as it appears on the registry list of the candidate's town of voting residence, except as provided in section 9-42a] as authorized by each candidate. The name of each major party candidate for a state or district office, as defined in section 9-372, or for the municipal office of state senator or state representative shall appear on the ballot as it appears on the certificate or statement of consent filed under section 9-388, subsection (b) of section 9-391, as amended by this act, or section 9-400 or 9-409. The name of each minor party candidate shall appear on the ballot [as it appears on the registry list in accordance with the provisions of section 9-452] as authorized by each candidate. The name of each nominating petition candidate shall appear on the ballot as it is verified by the town clerk on the application filed under section 9-453b, as amended by this act. The size and style of the type used to print the name of a candidate on a ballot shall be identical with the size and style of the type used to print the names of all other candidates appearing on such ballot. Such ballot shall contain the names of the offices and the names of the candidates arranged thereon. The names of the political parties and party designations shall be arranged on the ballots and followed by the word "party", either in columns or horizontal rows as set forth in section 9-249a, immediately adjacent to the column or row occupied by the candidate or candidates of such political party or organization. The ballot shall be printed in such

manner as to indicate how many candidates the elector may vote for each office, provided in the case of a town adopting the provisions of section 9-204a, such ballot shall indicate the maximum number of candidates who may be elected to such office from any party. If two or more candidates are to be elected to the same office for different terms, the term for which each is nominated shall be printed on the official ballot as a part of the title of the office. If, at any election, one candidate is to be elected for a full term and another to fill a vacancy, the official ballot containing the names of the candidates in the foregoing order shall, as a part of the title of the office, designate the term which such candidates are severally nominated to fill. No column, under the name of any political party or independent organization, shall be printed on any official ballot, which contains more candidates for any office than the number for which an elector may vote for that office.

Sec. 20. Subsection (a) of section 9-437 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) At the top of each ballot shall be printed the name of the party holding the primary, and each ballot shall contain the names of all candidates to be voted upon at such primary, except the names of justices of the peace. The vertical columns shall be headed by the designation of the office or position and instructions as to the number for which an elector may vote for such office or position, in the same manner as a ballot used in a regular election. The name of each candidate for town committee or municipal office, except for the municipal offices of state senator and state representative, shall appear on the ballot [as it appears on the registry list of such candidate's town of voting residence, except as provided in section 9-42a] as authorized by each candidate. The name of each candidate for state or district office or for the municipal offices of state senator or state representative shall appear on the ballot as it appears on the certificate or statement of consent filed under section 9-388, 9-391, as amended by this act, 9-400 or 9-409. On the first horizontal line, below the

748

749

750

751

752

753

754

755

756

757

758

759

760

761

762

763

764

765

766

767

768 769

770

771

772

773

774

775

776

777

778

779

designation of the office or position in each column, shall be placed the name of the party-endorsed candidate for such office or position, such name to be marked with an asterisk; provided, where more than one person may be voted for any office or position, the names of the party-endorsed candidates shall be arranged in alphabetical order from left to right under the appropriate office or position designation and shall continue, if necessary, from left to right on the next lower line or lines. In the case of no party endorsement there shall be inserted the designation "no party endorsement" at the head of the vertical column, immediately beneath the designation of the office or position. On the horizontal lines below the line for party-endorsed candidates shall be placed, in the appropriate columns, the names of all other candidates as hereinafter provided.

Sec. 21. Section 9-307 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

[Immediately after the polls are closed] Not later than forty-eight hours after the close of the polls, the official checker or checkers, appointed under the provisions of section 9-234, shall make and deliver to the moderator a certificate stating the whole number of names on the registry list or enrollment list including, if applicable, unaffiliated electors authorized under section 9-431 to vote in the primary, and the number checked as having voted in that election or primary. For the purpose of computing the whole number of names on the registry list, the lists of persons who have applied for presidential or overseas ballots prepared in accordance with section 9-158h shall be included. If a paper registry list is used, the registrars or assistant registrars, as the case may be, [acting at the respective polls,] shall write and sign with ink, on the list or lists so used and checked, a certificate of the whole number of names registered on the list eligible to vote in the election or primary and the number checked as having voted in that election or primary, and deposit it in the office of the municipal clerk. [of their town on or before the following day.] If an electronic version of the registry list is used, the electronic device upon

781

782

783

784

785

786

787

788

789

790

791

792

793

794

795

796

797

798 799

800

801

802

803

804

805

806

807

808

809

810

811

812

which such list is stored shall be returned to the registrars of voters who shall cause the electronic registry list to be printed. Such printed list shall be signed by each registrar, who shall deposit such list in the office of the municipal clerk. [on the following day.] The municipal clerk shall carefully preserve the paper registry list or printed electronic registry list, as applicable, on file, with the marks on it without alteration, for public inspection, and shall immediately enter a certified copy of such certificate on the town records. Subject to the provisions of section 7-109, the municipal clerk may destroy any voting checklist four years after the date upon which it was used. The moderator shall place the certificate which the moderator received from the official checker or checkers in the office of the municipal clerk [on or before the following day] not later than forty-eight hours after the close of the polls.

Sec. 22. Section 9-309 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

[As soon as the polls are closed] Upon the close of the polls, the moderator, in the presence of the other election officials, shall immediately lock the voting tabulator against voting and immediately cause the vote totals for all candidates and questions to be produced. The moderator shall, in the order of the offices as their titles are arranged on the ballot, read and announce in distinct tones the result as shown, giving the number indicated and indicating the candidate to whom such total belongs, and shall read the votes recorded for each office on the ballot. The moderator shall also, in the same manner, announce the vote on each constitutional amendment, proposition or other question voted on. The vote so announced by the moderator shall be taken down by each checker and recorded on the tally sheets. Each checker shall record the number of votes received for each candidate on the ballot and also the number received by each person for whom write-in ballots were cast. Once completed, the vote totals produced by the tabulator shall be prepared for transmission to the <u>Secretary of the State.</u> The result totals shall remain [in full] <u>subject to</u>

814

815

816

817 818

819

820

821

822

823

824

825

826

827

828

829

830

831 832

833

834

835

836

837

838

839

840

841

842

843

844

public view until the statement of canvass and all other reports have been fully completed and signed by the moderator, checkers and registrars, or assistant registrars, as the case may be. [The] Any other remaining result of the votes cast shall be publicly announced by the moderator [, who shall read] not later than forty-eight hours after the close of the polls. Such public announcement shall consist of reading (1) the name of each candidate, with the designating number and letter on the ballot and the absentee vote as furnished the moderator by the absentee ballot counters, [; also] and (2) the vote cast for and against each question submitted. While such announcement is being made, ample opportunity shall be given to any person lawfully present to compare the results so announced with the result totals provided by the tabulator and any necessary corrections shall then and there be made by the moderator, checkers and registrars or assistant registrars, after which the compartments of the voting tabulator shall be closed and locked. In canvassing, recording and announcing the result, the election officials shall be guided by any instructions furnished by the Secretary of the State.

Sec. 23. Section 9-314 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) As used in this subsection, "moderator" means the moderator of each state election in each town not divided into voting districts and the head moderator in each town divided into voting districts. The moderator shall make out a preliminary list of the votes given for each of the following officers: Presidential electors, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller, Attorney General, United States senator, representative in Congress, state senator, judge of probate, state representative and registrars of voters when said officers are to be chosen, as reported solely by the tabulator, as provided in section 9-309, as amended by this act, in the moderator's municipality and shall immediately transmit such preliminary list to the Secretary of the State not later than midnight on election day. Once the preliminary list has been transmitted to the Secretary of the State,

847

848

849

850

851

852

853

854

855

856

857

858

859

860

861

862

863

864

865

866

867

868

869

870

871

872

873

874875

876

877

878

the moderator shall make out a duplicate list of the votes given in the moderator's town for each of the following officers: Presidential electors, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller, Attorney General, United States senator, representative in Congress, state senator, judge of probate, state representative and registrars of voters when said officers are to be chosen. [Said] Such duplicate list shall include a statement of the total number of names on the official check list of such town and the total number checked as having voted. The moderator [may] shall transmit such list to the Secretary of the State by [facsimile machine or other] electronic means as prescribed by the Secretary of the State [, not later than midnight on election day. If the moderator transmits such list by such electronic means, the not later than forty-eight hours after the close of the polls on election day. The moderator shall also seal and deliver one of such lists to the Secretary of the State not later than the third day after the election. [If the moderator does not transmit such list by such electronic means, the moderator shall seal and deliver one of such lists by hand either (1) to the Secretary of the State not later than six o'clock p.m. of the day after the election, or (2) to the state police not later than four o'clock p.m. of the day after the election, in which case the state police shall deliver it by hand to the Secretary of the State not later than six o'clock p.m. of the day after the election.] Any such moderator who fails to so deliver such list to [either] the Secretary of the State [or the state police] by the time required shall pay a late filing fee of fifty dollars. The moderator shall also deliver one of such lists to the clerk of such town. [on or before the day after such election.] The Secretary of the State shall enter the returns in tabular form in books kept by the Secretary for that purpose and present a printed report of the same, with the name of, and the total number of votes received by, each of the candidates for said offices, to the General Assembly at its next session.

(b) As used in this subsection, "moderator" means the moderator of each municipal election in each town not divided into voting districts, and the head moderator in each town divided into voting districts. The

880

881

882

883

884

885

886

887

888

889

890

891

892

893

894

895

896

897

898

899

900

901

902

903

904

905

906

907

908

909 910

911

912

914 moderator shall forthwith transmit to the Secretary of the State the 915 results of the vote for each office contested at such election by 916 [facsimile machine or other] electronic means as prescribed by the 917 Secretary of the State [,] not later than [midnight on election day. If the 918 moderator transmits such list by such electronic means, the forty-eight 919 hours after the close of the polls on election day. The moderator shall 920 also seal and deliver one of such lists to the Secretary of the State not 921 later than the third day after the election. [If the moderator does not 922 transmit such list by such electronic means, the moderator shall seal 923 and deliver one of such lists by hand either (1) to the Secretary of the 924 State not later than six o'clock p.m. of the day after the election, or (2) 925 to the state police not later than four o'clock p.m. of the day after the 926 election, in which case the state police shall deliver it by hand to the 927 Secretary of the State not later than six o'clock p.m. of the day after the 928 election.] Any such moderator who fails to so deliver such list to 929 [either] the Secretary of the State [or the state police] by the time 930 required shall pay a late filing fee of fifty dollars. Such moderator shall 931 include in such return a statement of the total number of names on the 932 official check list of such town and the total number checked as having 933 voted. Such return shall be on a form prescribed by the Secretary of the 934 State.

- Sec. 24. Subsection (a) of section 9-322a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (a) Not later than [seven days] <u>forty-eight hours</u> following each regular state election, the head moderator, registrars of voters and town clerk for each town divided into voting districts shall meet to identify any error in the returns. Not later than [fourteen] <u>three</u> days following each regular state election, the head moderator shall correct any error identified and file an amended return with the Secretary of the State and the registrars of voters.
- 945 Sec. 25. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding any 946 provision of title 9 of the general statutes, the Secretary of the State, in

935

936

consultation and coordination with The University of Connecticut, may authorize the use of electronic equipment for the purpose of conducting any audit required pursuant to section 9-320f of the general statutes, as amended by this act, for any primary or general election held on or after January 1, 2016, provided (1) the Secretary of the State prescribes specifications for (A) the testing, set-up and operation of such equipment, and (B) the training of election officials in the use of such equipment; and (2) the Secretary of the State and The University of Connecticut agree that such equipment is sufficient in quantity to accommodate the total number of audits to be conducted. Nothing in this section shall preclude any candidate or elector from seeking additional remedies pursuant to chapter 149 of the general statutes as a result of any information revealed by such process.

- Sec. 26. Subsection (a) of section 9-320f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (a) Not earlier than the fifteenth day after any election or primary and not later than two business days before the canvass of votes by the Secretary of the State, Treasurer and Comptroller, for any federal or state election or primary, or by the town clerk for any municipal election or primary, the registrars of voters shall conduct, except as provided in section 25 of this act, a manual audit of the votes recorded in not less than ten per cent of the voting districts in the state, district or municipality, whichever is applicable. Such manual audit shall be noticed in advance and be open to public observation. Any election official who participates in the administration and conduct of an audit pursuant to this section shall be compensated by the municipality at the standard rate of pay established by such municipality for elections or primaries, as the case may be.
- Sec. 27. (NEW) (Effective from passage) (a) Two or more municipalities may jointly perform any function that each municipality is required to perform individually under title 9 of the general statutes by entering into an agreement pursuant to this section. Any such

of 33

agreement shall be negotiated and shall contain all provisions upon which each participating municipality agrees. Any such agreement shall establish a process for amendment of, termination of and withdrawal from such agreement. Any proposed agreement shall be submitted to the legislative body of each participating municipality for a vote to ratify or reject such agreement. The legislative body of each participating municipality shall provide an opportunity for public comment prior to any such vote. For purposes of this section, providing an opportunity for public comment does not require a legislative body to conduct a public hearing.

- (b) For any municipality in which the legislative body is the town meeting, such legislative body may, by resolution, vote to delegate its authority to ratify or reject a proposed agreement to the board of selectmen, provided such board of selectmen provides an opportunity for public comment in accordance with this section.
- 995 Sec. 28. Section 9-192b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- Each registrar of voters shall annually designate either said registrar, the deputy registrar of voters or an assistant registrar of voters to receive at least ten hours of instruction under the elections training program developed under subdivision (2) of subsection [(c)] (d) of section 9-192a, as amended by this act.
- Sec. 29. Subsection (b) of section 9-249 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (b) The election officials of such voting districts shall attend the elections training program developed under subdivision (1) of subsection [(c)] (d) of section 9-192a, as amended by this act, and any other meeting or meetings as are called for the purpose of receiving such instructions concerning their duties as are necessary for the proper conduct of the election.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	from passage	9-4b
Sec. 2	from passage	9-192a
Sec. 3	from passage	9-3
Sec. 4	from passage	New section
Sec. 5	from passage	New section
Sec. 6	from passage	9-7a(g)
Sec. 7	from passage	9-17a
Sec. 8	from passage	9-19b(b) to (d)
Sec. 9	from passage	9-19k
Sec. 10	from passage	9-23g(a) to (f)
Sec. 11	January 1, 2016	9-391
Sec. 12	January 1, 2016	9-395
Sec. 13	January 1, 2016	9-453b
Sec. 14	January 1, 2016	9-373a
Sec. 15	January 1, 2016	9-452
Sec. 16	from passage	9-412
Sec. 17	from passage	9-235d
Sec. 18	from passage	9-236b
Sec. 19	from passage	9-250
Sec. 20	from passage	9-437(a)
Sec. 21	from passage	9-307
Sec. 22	from passage	9-309
Sec. 23	from passage	9-314
Sec. 24	from passage	9-322a(a)
Sec. 25	from passage	New section
Sec. 26	from passage	9-320f(a)
Sec. 27	from passage	New section
Sec. 28	from passage	9-192b
Sec. 29	from passage	9-249(b)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 2(a)(1), the "not later than" preceding and applying to both subparagraphs (A) and (B) was moved into both said subparagraphs for clarity; in Section 2(d), "subsection" was substituted for "section" for clarity and accuracy; and in Sections 9(g), 22 and 23(a), references to the singular forms of "registrar" and "registrar" were changed to the plural form for accuracy; in Section 10(c), "a registrar" was substituted for "the registrar" for accuracy; and in Section 26, subsections (b) to (o), inclusive, were removed because they were not amended.

GAE Joint Favorable Subst.